

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision Record

Environmental Assessment No. OR-EA-99-26

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

The Proposed Action is to proceed with projects to enhance habitats for the Federally proposed Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* var. *kincaidii*) and Fender's blue butterfly, (*Icaricia icarioides* ssp. *fenderi*), and other rare prairie plant species, including *Aster curtus*, during the next seven years. Management objectives are to increase densities of rare plants and butterflies, to enhance critical habitat for these species, and to gain valuable information for the continued management of these species.

On the basis of the information contained in the Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me. I have determined that the proposal does not constitute a major Federal action affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement or a supplement to the existing Environmental Impact Statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

Decision

My decision is to proceed with a modification of the land management activities described in the Proposed Action (Alternative A) of the Enhancement of Lupine and Butterfly Habitat Environmental Assessment No. OR-EA-99-26.

Rationale

It is my decision to implement this project because it would enhance habitat conditions for Kincaid's lupine and Fender's blue butterfly and other native prairie species.

Alternative B was not selected because of the lack of fire enhancing effects to the rare prairie plants. Alternative C, the No-Action Alternative, was not selected because of the anticipated decline of the Kincaid's lupine and Fender's blue butterfly populations as well as other special status plant species.

The proposed action and alternatives are in conformance with the West Eugene Wetlands Plan (City of Eugene 1992) and the "Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan" (June 1995).

Signed by Diane Chung, Coast Range Field Manager on September 23, 1999